

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
December 8, 2015

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at 4:15 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

Frank J. Thornton, Chairman, Fairfield District
Tyrone E. Nelson, Vice Chairman, Varina District
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District
David A. Kaechele, Three Chopt District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukas, County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board
Joseph A. Casey, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration
Jane D. Crawley, Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Thornton called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m.

Mr. Vithoukas noted this was the final special meeting of the Board for the calendar year and briefly reviewed the items listed on the agenda for this meeting. In response to a question from Mr. Nelson, Mr. Vithoukas confirmed that two representatives of the Metro Richmond Clergy Committee for Rapid Transit were signed up to speak during the public comment period at the 7:00 p.m. meeting in support of a metropolitan-wide rapid transit bus system

Hooper Road Property Acquisition

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Jon Tracy, Director of Real Property, who narrated a slide presentation on this item. Mr. Tracy began by providing general information on property located at 4007 Hooper Road, which staff has recommended the County acquire, and a brief history of property acquisitions for the western government center since the first parcels were purchased in January 1, 1965. He identified the construction dates for each building within the complex and the purchase price and acreage of expansion properties in the vicinity of the complex purchased

by the County from 2000 to 2012. Mr. Tracy also showed the Board an aerial photograph depicting properties between Dixon Powers Drive and Staples Mill Road that the County owns and the property at 4007 Hooper Road that staff has proposed the County purchase. At Mr. Vithoukaskas' request, Mr. Tracy elaborated on the status of a 0.95 acre parcel at 4012 Hooper Road containing a life estate residence and acquired by the County on November 19, 2012. With Mr. Vithoukaskas' assistance, he responded to questions from the Board regarding the County's purchase history of certain properties between Dixon Powers Drive and Staples Mill Road and others that are potentially targeted for future expansion of the western government center. Mr. Tracy concluded his presentation by responding to questions from Mr. Kaechele and Mr. Nelson regarding the proposed purchase of 4007 Hooper Road and reminding the Board there was a Board paper on the general agenda for the 7:00 p.m. meeting authorizing acquisition of this property.

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Program Update

Mr. Vithoukaskas noted a \$24.9 million TIGER grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2014 to provide funding for the \$49.8 million Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project sponsored by the GRTC Transit System. The County is contributing \$400,000 to this project. Mr. Vithoukaskas recognized Mr. Foster, who credited Transportation Development Division Director Todd Eure and Assistant County Attorney Denise Letendre for working with him and Mr. Vithoukaskas on the early implementation phase of the grant and the County's agreement with BRT. Mr. Foster reminded the Board that this grant was discussed during a special meeting of the Board on September 9, 2014, and BRT was part of a presentation mentioned by GRTC in May 2010. In narrating a slide presentation on this item, Mr. Foster began by explaining the purpose of the grant is to enable BRT to utilize a guideway of dedicated median and curbside bus lanes and mixed-flow traffic. The route will be 7.6 miles in length and will run from Willow Lawn through the City of Richmond to the eastern terminus at Rocketts Landing. There will be 14 stations along the route, including a station on West Broad Street, just west of Willow Lawn Drive, and a station at Rocketts Landing in the City of Richmond. In addition to describing the corridor for the guideway, Mr. Foster reviewed funding for the project, the status of the project, and the construction timeline. Early construction activities are scheduled to begin in March 2016, and pulse operations are anticipated to start in October 2017.

At this point in the presentation, there was extended discussion by members of the Board and Mr. Foster. Mrs. O'Bannon and Mr. Nelson pointed out they have heard from citizens who are concerned about the route. Mr. Foster explained to Mr. Nelson that although GRTC is the grant recipient, the Virginia Department of Transportation has been brought in as a subcontractor to help administer the grant because of the agency's expertise with projects of this magnitude. Mr. Glover expressed concerns about the proposed location of the station and availability of parking.

Mr. Foster resumed his presentation by sharing renderings of the future station. He and Mr. Vithoukaskas responded to questions from the Board pertaining to the appearance of the station and the possibility of extending the route further west within Henrico. Mr. Foster concluded his presentation by elaborating on highlights of the BRT agreement. He pointed out the County will maintain control of its traffic signal along the route and will have a seat on the Executive Oversight Board. He emphasized the County's financial contribution will be limited to \$400,000.

There was further discussion by the Board and Mr. Foster at the conclusion of Mr. Foster's presentation. Mr. Glover asked Mr. Foster to look into the possibility of moving an existing bus shelter at the intersection of Willow Lawn Drive and Markel Road so it can share the site of the new station. Mrs. O'Bannon and Mr. Nelson voiced concerns that the Richmond City Council has not yet approved the project and could stop it. Mr. Rapisarda confirmed for the Board that the County's agreement with BRT is still in draft form. Mr. Vithoukas clarified that the Board will have an opportunity to act on the agreement in early 2016 assuming it is approved by the Richmond City Council shortly after the first of the year. Mr. Thornton suggested it would be helpful to provide citizens with more information about the TIGER grant program.

Sports Tourism Update

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Dawn Miller, Recreation Tourism Specialist, who narrated a slide presentation on this item. During her presentation, Mrs. Miller reviewed the economic impact of tourism within Henrico and four other Virginia jurisdictions with higher travel expenditures than the County, statistics from 2015 summer tournaments held in the County, new sports clients, the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) races held in the region in September, pedestrian and cyclist usage statistics for the Capital Trail segments in Henrico during the month of October, and a new website and app for the County's tourism promotional efforts that will go live in the near future. She paused in her presentation to respond to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon and Mr. Nelson about the new app. Mr. Vithoukas thanked Recreation and Parks Director Neil Luther and Mrs. Miller for their work on this project.

Mrs. Miller resumed her presentation by highlighting the new Visitors Guide, heritage tourism plan, spring NASCAR series, Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA) Dominion Charity Classic, 2017 - 2020 Virginia Senior Games, and 2017 Babe Ruth World Series. Mr. Thornton suggested that County publications and the web site focusing on tourism be offered in different languages to broaden their appeal. Mrs. Miller responded that the new app has a Google language translator feature. Mr. Nelson asked for assurances that sports tournaments held in Henrico County are being widely advertised and event planners are made aware of future sports complexes that are planned for Greenwood and Dorey Parks.

On motion by Mr. Glover, seconded by Mr. Kaechele, the Board approved going into a Closed Meeting at 5:41 p.m. for Consultation with the County Attorney Regarding Specific Legal Matters Requiring the Provision of Legal Advice Pertaining to Claims Made by Adriane Joy on Her Own Behalf and on Behalf of Her Son, Kyliel Joy, A Minor, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, as Amended.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

Aye
Frank J. Thornton
Tyrone E. Nelson
Richard W. Glover
David A. Kaechele
Patricia S. O'Bannon

Nay

On motion of Mr. Glover, seconded by Mr. Kaechele, the Board approved going out of the Closed Meeting at 6:14 p.m.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Frank J. Thornton	
Tyrone E. Nelson	
Richard W. Glover	
David A. Kaechele	
Patricia S. O'Bannon	

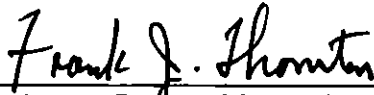
On motion of Mr. Glover, seconded by Mr. Kaechele, the Board approved the attached Certificate of Closed Meeting.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Frank J. Thornton	
Tyrone E. Nelson	
Richard W. Glover	
David A. Kaechele	
Patricia S. O'Bannon	

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

(The Board reconvened in Café 1611 with key staff at 6:25 p.m. for dinner and an invocation by Mr. Nelson.)



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia